

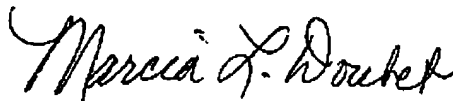
REMARKS

A minor editorial revision has been made to the specification. Claims 1, 3, 5, 12 - 13, and 16 have been amended. Claims 8 - 9, 14 - 15, and 17 have been cancelled from the application without prejudice. Claims 18 - 20 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. The amendments and added claims are supported in the specification as originally filed. Claims 1 - 7, 10 - 13, 16, and 18 - 20 are now in the application.

Page 5 of the Office Action dated April 9, 2004 (hereinafter, "the Office Action") states that Claims 9, 15, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Independent Claims 1, 12, and 16 have been amended to include limitations from these claims, along with limitations of the intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as currently presented are allowable, and request reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding rejections, and allowance of all remaining claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



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